# NEW YORK HERALD.

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

### JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

All business or news letters and telegraphic despatches must be addressed New York

& Letters and packages should be properly

Rejected communications will not be returned. .

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO-DAY.

BUNYAN HALL.—REV. CHAR. B. SMYTH, ON THE "POPE, POPERY, PROTESTANTISM AND FRIENTCEAPT; OR THE POPERY OF PROTESTANTISM AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF POPERY." Afternoon and ovening.

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION.—ORDINATION TO THE PRINSTHOOD, BY BISHOF POTTER (MOTAING), AND SER-CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION.-REV. GRO.

CHAPEL OF THE HOLY APOSTLES (Rutgers age. Rev. Thomas K. Connad (merning), and Rev. Howland, D. D. (evening).

CANAL STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.-REV. CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Rav. James. Dunn (morning), and Twenty-fourth Anniversary of the lissionary association (evening).

CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH .- "FAITH IN THE

DODWORTH HALL.-Mrs. MAYNARD OR "SPIRITUALISM FORTY-SECOND STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
REV. J. L. NEVINS ON "THE RELIGIOUS CONDITION OF
CHINA." Evening.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 125TH STREET. -MASONIC HALL .- MRS. BULLERS (medium) ON Spinit-

ST. ANN'S FREE CHURCH.-REV. S. F. HOLMES MOVE ing. Service FOR DEAY MUTES afternoon.

SPIRITUALISTIC CONFERENCE-35 Bleecker street. THE UPPER CHURCH OF ASCENSION .- Preaching

THE PEOPLE'S MEETING.—Discussion—"How to SAVE THE COUNTRY FROM EXISTING AND IMPENDING EVILS." TRINITY CHAPEL-Musical Service and Service.

UNIVERSITY, Washington square.—BISHOP SNOW REASONS FOR EXPRESTING THE SPEEDY APPEARING OF

New York, Sunday, January 19, 1868.

#### THE NEWS.

EUROPE

The news report by the Atlantic cable is dated vester-

Mesers. George Francis Train, Grinnell and Gee, passengers on board the steamship Scotia, from New York, arrested on that vessel at Queenstown by the Irish police, on the 17th inst., on a charge of being active members of the Fenian organization in America. The proceeding produced much excitement all over the United Kingdom. press law of France as being too liberal. The King of strongly indicative of an idea of war. The French Minister in Rome attended the New Year's reception of the ex-King of Sicily. The Prussian Diet authorizes a large railroad toan. The Italian Legislative opposition has been defeated on the question of the budget.

72 in London and 76% in Frankfort. Cotton advanced 1/4 of a penny in Liverpool, middling uplands rating at 7% pence with an excited market.

#### Breedstuffs firmer. Provisions firm. CONGRESS.

In the House yesterday Mr. Ross, of Illinois, apolo Mr. Farnsworth drawing pay as a brigadier general and as a member of Congress at the same time, saying that he had no information of his colleague having done so. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union for general debate on the President's Message, and Mr. Baker, of Illinois, addressed the committee on the subject of the recent treaty for the acquisition of the Russian American possessions, contending that the treaty could not be complete until it appropriation to carry it out, and that the acquisition ought to be disapproved and the appropriation rejected. Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, next addressed the committee on the subject of the industrial interests of the country, and asserted that the war for the suppression of the rebeillou had developed a productive power in the states more than equal to the indebtedpess. national. State and municipal, and attributed to the contraction of the currency and the mordinate taxation the present paralysis of trade. Mesars Woodward, of Pennsylvania, Blaine, of Maine, and finances and the national dept. and Mr. Axtell, of California in opposition to the Reconstruction bill, after which the committee ross and the House adjourned.

## MISCELLANBOUS.

Our special Cubs cable telegrams convey the intelligence that several merchants in Havana had suffered heavy losses owing to inaccurate gold quotations for warded through the cable for the press of that city. A shock of earthquake was felt last Friday at Trinidad de Cuba. In Porto Rico the quarantine regulations were again enforced on account of the cholera at St. Thomas, An American bark had arrived with provisions. In Honduras the cholers was raging at Truxillo and a revo-Intionary outbreak was apprehended. The gold wash-

In the State Constitutional Convention vesterday resolution was adopted for the appointment of a comconstitution as amended shall be submitted to the people for their adoption, and the form of notice and time of the election. The report of the Committee on Education was then considered in Committee of the Whole, but without coming to a vote on any preposition of importance the Convention adjourned.

Governor Fenton has tendered to Judge Mason, of Madison county, the office of Judge in the Court of Appeals made vacant by the death of Judge Wright.

A shocking accident occurred at Yonkers, N. Y., yesserday, by the tumbling down of a building used as a malt storehouse, whereby two men were instantly killed and five seriously injured. The building, in which a large quantity of ice was being stored at the time of the sad casualty, was said to be very substantially built, and no reason has as yet been assigned for the At a meeting of the Corp Exchange yesterday resolu-

key tax, and thatit should be collected at the distillant The proceedings of the Georgia Reconstruction Convention yesterday were enlivened by one of the dele gates giving another the lie, when each caught up his chair to hur! it at his adversary, but they were prevented damaging each other, and subsequently mutual apologies were made. General Meade sent a communication to the Convention stating that there were no funds in the State Treasury, and that he would endeavo to secure means to pay the incidental expenses of the Convention, and adds that if he find the funds have been placed beyond his reach he will suspend the payment of the salaries of all officers who receive their pay from the State Treasury. Governor Jenkins, in a speech at Milledgeville yesterday, stated that the funds had been sent to New York. The Postmaster and express agent as Milledgeville refuse to deliver to nowly appointed Treasurer letters and packages ad-

in the Virginia Convention yesterday the Hill of Rights was under consideration. The Judiciary Committee reported adversely to settling debts incurred prior to 1865 at twenty-five cents on the dollar.

In the Mississippi Convention yesterday a resolution approving the action of the United States Senate in reinstating Secretary Stanton was adopted. A large number of resolutions were referred, and a committee was appolated to memorialize Congress that at least one-fourth

the tax collected on the cotton produced in the year 1867 be expended through the Freedmen's Bureau to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, without regard

At a meeting of the Board of Supervisors yesterday resolutions were adopted giving to each of the Supreme Court Judges in the First Judicial district \$3,000 per annum as additional salary, and making the salaries of the Judges of the Superior and Common Pleas Courts \$10,000 each, and of the Marine Court \$8,000 each. The Evening Telegram and Commercial Advertises were designated as the efficial county organs. A large amount of routine business was transacted, after which the

The examination into the case of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad has taken a new phase. The recalcitrant defendants having refused at a previous ting before the referee, to whom the case was sent in the Supreme Court for taking testimony, to answer pursuant to previous order usesed by Judge Cardoso, the plaintiffs, by counsel, appeared to move for an order directing that the defendants, Tracy, Tows and respond to. It being suggested that there were motions pending, and that the examination already had had reference only to one, it would be better to have them all brought on together, and that the defendants should be required to make affidavits in respect to all the moions. This suggestion having been made in court, it should stand over till vocates and a standard three motions—one for the continuance of the injunction, another for the punishment of the defendants for violating the injunction, and the third for a receiver of the proceeds of the forty-nine thousand shares of stock—should be held on Saturday next. Meantime the defendants were to be required to make affidavit on two other motions. Notice to that effect was sent to them, and they then refused. Subsequently, however, they sent to plaintiffs' attorney the affidavits required. Garness C. Baker, late a teller in the Tradesmen's National Bank, was again up for examination day. The line of testimony was confined to the mode have been reported in the HERALD. The case will be summed up and submitted to the Commissioner or

The gift enterprise case in which the plaintiffs have sued Mr. James Kelly, Postmaster of this city, for havwas up before Judge Blatchford in the United State District Court yesterday; but it was adjourned to Mon-day, counsel for the plaintiffs not being in attendance. General Grant is expected at Richmond, Va., on Tues-

day next to attend the meeting of the trustees of sabody Educational fund. Great distress prevails among the laboring classes

An explosion of fireworks occurred in Pittaburg, Pa. vesterday, occasioned by the falling of a box of fireson of the proprietor of the establishment fatally in-

The stock market was firm vesterday. Government ecurities were strong. Gold closed at 138% a 138%. improvement, though a few of the leading articles were quite freely dealt in. Cotton continued in active demand from exporters and speculators at full prices, the market closing weak, however. Coffee was in improved demand and firmly held. On 'Change, transactions in flour, wheat and corn were light and almost entirely for consump tion, the export demand being checked by the high rates of freight; prices were heavy and 2c. lower for corn Cats were a shade easier. Pork fold more freely, but a a decline of 25c, a 50c, per bbl. Beef remained steady, with a fair demand, while lard was not so active and a shade easier. Naval stores, oils and petroleum were dull, but unchanged in value. Freights continued firm Whiskey was inactive and nominal.

### Our Revolutionary Congress

The country is in great danger. The public mind is uneasy. A feeling of insecurity prevails throughout the land. Stagnation and general distrust are unsettling the foundations of industry in the North, and widespread social and political demoralization have prostrated the industry of the South. Wastefulness and unparalleled corruptions swallow up the receipts of the heaviest taxations in the world. and from all the developments of the time we have reason to fear that in this dreadful state of things, before we are to have any change for the better, we have still the worst to suffer. Where lies the responsibility for all this, and where the remedy

The responsibility, we charge, rests upon this radical revolutionary Fortieth Congress. It trayed the just expectations and now it boldly defies the will of the people. Professing only a defensive policy against executive encroachments this Congress, "dressed in a little brief authority," has audaciously undertaken the absorption within itself of the powers of all the departments of the government-legislative, executive and judicial-in setting up a Southern dictator above the constitutional chief magistrate of the United States, and in reducing the Supreme Court to a nullity, touching the laws of Congress among other things.

Great excitement prevails at Washington among the politicians on all sides regarding the reinstatement of Mr. Stanton in the War Department. According to the newspaper reports nothing is talked of in the Cabinet or the capital but this unexpected and most extraordinary restoration of Stanton and the probable and possible consequences. Some say that Mr. Johnson is in a towering rage over the unconditional surrender of General Grant to the radicals : some say that Johnson has yet a trump card to play which will astonish them, while others avow that Ashley and Butler are anxiously watching for a plausible pretext for impeachment. One would-be wise man tells us that Grant will probably be court-martialed, and that Stanton is to be removed; and another says, "Ob, no! Johnson is not going uselessly out of his way to invite fresh insults from Sumner and 'Old Ben Wade." But these shallow Washington politicians and newsmougers, "pleased with a rattle or tickled with a straw," in their silly conjectures as to whet Johnson, or Grant, or Stanton next intends to do touching this restoration of Stanton, seem utterly to overlook the destructive programme of this revolutionary Congress.

The thrusting back of Stanton into the War Department is but a necessary incident in this revolutionary game. According to the Tenure of Office law the Senate was bound to reinstate this man, the law being passed expressly for his retention in the Cabinet against the wishes of the President. The offence is in the law itself, which is a step to the abolition of the executive branch of the government as established by the constitution. And here, in this legislation outside the constitution, lies the danger to the republic. The tendency ofthings is from another Long Parliament, another transfer to the Commonwealth of a Puritanical dictator. This new Reconstruction bill proposes, for example, to set aside the President and the courts and the civil governments and laws of the ten excluded Southern States, and to set up over them, in the person of General Grant, an absolute military dictator. Let us suppose that this scheme is carried out, and that these ten outside States are placed absolutely under the will of General Grant, with

the army at his back; that he has carried

through the work of Congressional reconstruc tion; that these ten Southern States are again in Congress-are with radical delegations in both houses, some with a sprinkling of negroes and some with all white radicals; that these States, so reconstructed, have voted for the radical candidate for the Presidency; that their votes are necessary to his election, and that in their acceptance by this Congress the radical candidate is declared elected by this Southern negro political balance of power What next? Unquestionably such a state of tumult and chaos among the political elements of the North as will invite the experiment of a

military dictator over the whole land. This Southern negro political balance power in the Presidential contest is clearly the present object of this revolutionary Congress. In this design the radical fanatics have gone too far to recede. The game is desperate, but there is no alternative; and as desperate cases require desperate remedies, we may be prepared for anything from these radicals resolved upon the perpetuation of their power. Where, then, lies the remedy? In the hands of the people of the Northern States, to be applied in the coming Presidential election. We hold, too, that the man who single handed, has so far resisted and delayed the usurpations of this radical Congress, and who is the only obstacle to the speedy consum mation of its revolutionary designs, is the man upon whom all the opposition elements may be most readily and most largely combined. Andrew Johnson is this man. He is in a position which demands the instant and most effective support of all men who desire to maintain the government of the constitution. The most effective support that can be given him is the adoption of his name for the Presidential succession by all the political elements of the country opposed to this revolutionary Congress and the revolutionary radical faction which stands behind it. Men are nothing in this crisis of life or death to the republic : but the man who stands in the gap, and who holds the opposition balance of power against these

The Civil War and "Sick Man" in Chin Defeat of the Royalists and Appeal of the

radicals is everything

The Chinese imperialists have been again defeated in battle by the revolutionary insurgents, who have taken up arms against the Tartar throne and dynasty and seek to overthrow the whole system of rule, with the court religion and philosophy, by which a government, representing an ambitious minority was forced on them after military conquest. Marching from the vast provinces of the southwest the nativists have vanquished the royalist forces in many engagements, and we learn by our latest cable telegrams from Hong Kong and Shanghae that they have just been quite victorious in a sanguinary battle fought at Shintung, routing their adversaries, who were commanded by Footal-a General Grant of the empire in almost everything but final success. This result places the imperialist cause in a very critical condition, as it will give tone, vigor, spirit and consistency to the vast secret organization known as the Triad Society-the Fenians of that part of Asia-which has been working during many years for a radical change in the government of the country.

In this great strait the Emperor China, who rules over the most ancient existing dominion on the globe, has formally appealed to the Powers of Europe for assistance to enable him to preserve his throne against the rebels. By this act his Celestial Majesty of Eastern Asia voluntarily invalids himself as a sovereign and places his name on the list of "sick men" alongside that of his Sublime brother, the Sultan of Turkey. who, from the western portion of the same quarter of the earth, called in two of the most and, perhaps as a natural consequence, has been in a dying condition ever since, and now also demands a little further comfort and advice at their hands. The toreign doctors will take up the case of the Emperor of China at once. It is a novel and extraordinary one. and will pay, for the patient is rich in lands and specie and goods and chattels, and by treating him, even if to the death, they will be very likely to extend their practice among

his neighbors and subjects. The boom of the guns of the British mon-of war which opened the ports of the empire to foreign trade shook the traditions of China considerably, and when the French soldiers, after the Peiho war, stole the pocket handkerchiefs of the Empress from under the sacred pillow in her Majesty's bedroom, near Pekin, they accomplished almost as much to destroy the divinity which doth "hedge a king in the realm, as did their countryman Voltaire in his day in France. The action of the present Emperor of China dissipates these traditions to a great extent, and his people may, with great truth, exclaim. "wisand "glory" have departed from the East. There is little doubt that the imperial Chinese mission entrusted to the Hon. Anson Burlingame, United States Minister in Pekin, has for its object the invitation of foreign intervention; and it is a splendid acknowledgment of our principle of republican civiliza tion and its effective progress in distant lands to say that the representative of the youngest and most free nation in the world has been selected as the confidential envoy of the oldest and most exclusive empire to the fellow monarchs of its potentate in a matter of such dire national extremity.

The great European physicians will soon have the cases of three most illustrious patients on band, each one the personal embodiment of a system hoary in its antiquity, and, as some persons believe, enfeebling in its con sequences, viz :- the Sultan of Turkey, the Pope and the Emperor of China. The first two have been "waited" on and the last named has taken to his bed. The philosophers, the theologians, the antiquarians, the soldiers, the politicians and the Peace Society men, are about to have vast fields opened for their investigation and exertions in Chins, in Turkey and Southern Europe. They will, most likely, squabble among themselves as to the merits of some new system of civilisation for China. In this confusion the progressive and soothing diplomacy of the United States, free from "entangling alliances," will have great force, particularly under the counsel of Mr. Burlingame, who will assuredly enjoy the button of a mandarin of the most authoritative color should royalty endure in the empire, Even if the rebellion triumph be will have much honor as

a plain citizen of the great Western republic, so that in either event both our name and flag are likely to be still more honored in the East.

The Crisis-The Press and the Party

Loaders. For well nigh a century republican institutions have been the pride of the United States and the envy of all the other nations of the earth. Never before did any nation in the same space of time make such advancement in all that constitutes genuine prosperity. Our recent success in crushing out a gigantic rebellion inspired doubters in all lands with the hope that our republican institutions were destined to be as enduring as they had been successful. The forces, however, which triumphed over the rebellion and gave the nation back to itself in all its entirety are now being frittered away in paltry and undignified strife, and peace threatens to be more ruinous than war. The reconstruction of the late rebel States, which in the hands of intelligent, highminded and honorable statesmen would have been so easily effected, if it has not already brought the country to the verge of ruin, is at least shaking faith in the permanency of our institutions and exposing us to the ridicule of the nations. Reconstruction, in fact, in the hands of our present rulers, has so far proved itself a more formidable enemy did the rebellion. Three years have well nigh rolled past since the flames of civil war were extinguished, yet the restoration of the Southern States to their full privileges under the constitution seems as distant and as doubt This, however, is not all. Not only has no

progress been made in healing the divisions of the nation, but, what is worse, obstacles to speedy and satisfactory reconstruction are hourly multiplying. The interests of party are blinding our rulers to the interests of the nation, and party strife rages with a growing and almost unprecedented violence. Within the last few weeks acts have been committed by our leading officeholders and measures have been adopted in Congress which in their revolutionary tendency recall the worst features of the great French and English revolutions. Neither in the National Assembly por in the Long Parliament were more arbitrary courses followed than those which within the last few weeks we have witnessed in the Congress of the United States; and the neglect of constitutional forms on the part of our Grants and our Stantons shows now possible, even here, is the rôle of a Cromwell or a Napoleon. It was party strife which led to Cæsarism both in England and in France; and in both cases Cæsarism was a relief. Cæsarism, however, is at best but a necessary evil, an evil to be accepted only in some dire extremity, when all hope of deliverance and all power of resistance are gone. If this extremity would be avoided it is for the people of the United States to come to the rescue of the constitution. If we are not as a people, already at the mercy of traitors, we are at least at the mercy of selfish and unprincipled men. It is time now to sound the note of alarm. Silence is no longer the duty of those who love their country.

We feel all the more imperatively called upon to speak out that party spirit seems to have taken possession of all those to whom the people look for guidance. In a country like this the people naturally look to the press for instruction and aid; but the press is as much under the influence of party spirit as are the politicians. Bound to no party, free to express our opinions, and devoted to the interests of the nation at large, we call upon the people, ignoring a servile press and ignoring party leaders, whether in or out of Congress, to come to the rescue of the country and the constitution. We are swiftly approaching the rapids. Salvation, however, is still possible ; of the whole people alone can effect it .

## The Fushions.

American ladies are creating quite a sensa tion in Europe this season, and in some fashion able circles they are pronounced the handsomest and most tastefully dressed amid the brilliant devotees of fashion. At one grand hall in Nice the daughters of Uncle Sam were the reigning belles, and everything in the millinery and dressmaking line is à l'Américaine Fashion is returning to her extravagances in Paris, for the hideons headdresses of the last century are again in vogue, and the hair is tortured into architectural edifices of all kinds. The fickle deity has also devised a bonnet made of puffs of velvet and resembling a pair of bellows. His Holiness the Pope engaged in a crusade against short dressesnot those of the ballet order, but for street wear. He will find to his cost, however, that Dame Fashion is a more stubborn enemy than even the red-shirted gentleman from Caprera The coldness of the weather for the last few days in this city has necessitated a change in ladies' outdoor tollets. The mantles worn this month are consequently larger than their predecessors. although not less elegant or graceful, and velvet suits, which are very much admired, are daily seen on Broadway. Some of these suits are trimmed with narrow bands of swan's down, sable or other fur. of a color that will contrast or harmonize with the shade of the velvet. The square opening or Watteau form of body seems to be the most fashionable for evening dresses. The Grecian and Campana styles in jewelry are the most in favor this month. As the season advances new styles will be brought before our belles, and at the opening of the spring fashions we may expect another revolution similar to that of last year. It will be difficult however, to devise more becoming tollets than some of those which are now in vogue. and the good sense of our modistes may prevent them from rushing again into the extravagapces and want of taste that ruled in former

eldent in the Theatre.

At Niblo's theatre, on Friday night, there was an explosion of popular thought-an unpremeditated, altogether spontaneous expression, indicating very clearly the conviction as to the acts and position of some public men that are taking hold of the common mind of the masses. An actor in the play unintentionally fired the train. He dragged in the phrase that Grant made famous in the Wilderness campaign:-"I'll fight it out on this line if it takes all summer.". It is one of many phrases that actors drag in whenever possible, as it generally "starys the house." People have got used to cheering it, so when it came on Friday

night they received it in the usual hearty temper; but in the very midst of their applause the thought seemed to flash on many minds that the man who first stamped a current value on the phrase was no longer what he then seemed. These men then expressed their disapprobation in hisses. There was a fair division of sentiment, and to put the point raised beyond all doubt there was a call of "three heers for Grant." It is hardly possible that the gallant, considerate, reasoning, generous American people will ever refuse this ovation of three cheers called for in the name of a man who has led the armies of the republic to victories almost without parallel. The three cheers, therefore were honestly given. But they who had first expressed disapprobation, and who had, perhaps, cheered with the rest, desired to carry the matter further, wishing, apparently, to show that these cheers were given to the name of a gallant soldier, and not as an endorsement of that soldier's political record. With this view they threw on the tide the opposite principle in politics to that radicalism in which Grant at present seems lost. They gave the name of Andrew Johnson, and the determination their way was instantaneous, complete, overwhelming, in three cheers so absolute in their power as to put the question beyond the least hint of a further discussion—as if even repudiating the idea that there was a question. Thus in the political doubts and divisions of the hour Johnson seems to the masses to be the inevitable consequence of the situation.

Progress of the New Reading Sensation. The new "reading sensation" began early in the present season in New York and is rapidly extending to the other cities of the Union. It was heralded by the announcement that Charles Dickens intended to make a second American tour and to read in public extracts from his

The Hon. Mrs. Theresa Yelverton got the start of Dickens and opened the season by reading at Steinway Hall about a month previous to the arrival of "Boz" in Boston. Mrs. Yelverton, after reading here, in Brooklyn and in several New England towns, has gone to Charleston and will visit most of the other cities of the South. She will doubtless be welcomed there with the same sympathetic curiosity which awaited her here, in view of her exceptional misfortunes and the pluck and perseverance with which she had struggled against them, resisting to the utmost the cruel and absurd contradictions of the British matrimonial laws, and fascinating public attention by her personal charms as well as by the genius displayed in her love letters. These letters, it is true, were originally written only for the eye of her faithless husband, but, having been brought to light in the course of her various law suits, excited universal admiration and will remain as classic as the letters of Helo'se to Abelard.

We have duly chronicled, without, however, being led astray into indiscriminate flattery, the success of Mr. Dickens both in Boston and in this city. Now that he has concluded his course of readings in New York and set forth on his tour throughout the United States, Mr. Vandenhoff comes forward to give us a taste of his quality as a reader. The reputation which the latter owes to a thorough mastery of reading as an art, as well as to his theatrical experience, justifies him in challenging comparison with the former, if not in defying all competition, so far as elecution is concerned. None have studied more carefully than Mr. Vandenhoff the resources of that most marvellous of all musical instruments, the human voice, and few can equal the skill and power with which he has learned to play upon that instrument. In articulation, pronunciation, inflections, simple and compound, emphasis, intonation, expression, energy and passionpoetical, rhythmical or dramatic elecution, Mr. Vandenhoff is a consummate artist. In his "Dickens readings" he will probably be more accurate than Mr. Dickens in varying his tones and manner to suit the different characters who are to be represented as speaking. Mr. Dickens usually contents himself with simply outlining these characters, without always taking the trouble to personate them throughout; and he rarely rises above the colloquial style into what Mr. Vandenhoff would call the imaginative style of elecution.

This colloquial siyle, indeed, heightens the illusion under which the listener forgets that Mr. Dickens has a book open before him. The listener is entranced by one of the were heat story tellers in the world, and does not stop to ask whether he reads well or ill or even whether he reads at all. Moreover, the majority of any audience that is called together by the name of Dickens is mainly actuated by curiosity to see and hear the celebrated writer, and not to criticise his readings. It is Dickens, the living Shakspeare of contemporary English literature, whom many are eager to see. Nor are there lacking others who, according to the Philadelphia journals, do not besitate to avow their wish to stare at "the man that slandered America." In other words, the unquestionable success of Mr. Dickens as a reader must be what the French call a "success of curiosity," albeit on a grand and remunerative scale. It might be almost equally great were he simply to exhibit himself and his gilt tering watch chain and road never a line. Of course no one else can personate him to the life except bimself. And there is a psychological interest in witnessing an author's own embodiment of the creations of his imagination. On these grounds, at least, none can pretend to out-Dickens Dickens. But if Mr. Dickens were to hear the "Dickens readings" of Mr. Vandenhoff we are sure that he would join heartly in applauding them as equal in some respects and in others as superior to his own. Both Mrs. Yelverton and Mr. Dickens must

largely rely for success upon the public curiosity which attaches to them personally-to the one on account of her misfortunes and her love letters, and to the other on account of his novels. But Mrs. Fanny Kemble Butler, who has already, we believe, re-entered the field as a reader, will doubtless hold the unapproachable position which she long ago won. In this field Vandenhoff is more than equal to Dickens and Mrs. Yelverton; but neither these three nor the dozens who are following in their wake can be compared as readers to the niece of Mrs. Siddons. The Shakspeare readings which Mrs. Fanny Kemble Butler began to give in London in May, 1852, and which she re-peated in this country, have never been qualled.

only thousands who never enter a theatro, but also no small number of habitual playgoers. The latter have been disgusted at the decline of the regular drama. The managers of our theatres should take warning in time and pander no longer to the low and corrupt taste which has been inflamed by the dazzling spectacles and the heathenish nudities and antics of Black Crookdom. Otherwise, except on those rare occasions when the legitimate drama is properly represented, our theatres will be entirely deserted by the pure, the refined and the intelligent, and "readings" will become a permanent institution in opposition to theatrical entertainments.

#### THE SKATING SEASON.

The week just past has been one of pleasure to the thousands of devotees of the attractive and exhibi-rating pastime of stating living in and around the meand their patronage greater than during any previous year. The old monarch of the frigid zone, in stilling the rippling surfaces of rivers, lakes and ponds, brilliant, carnivalistic scenes and incidents that are closely allied to this healthful and artistic pastime have been hourly re-enacted and worthy of the brilliant holiday feter of ancient and Easters cities. Each day seemingly has been created for the peculiar pleasures of this sport, and the bright sunshine grandly intermingling with the atmosphere to heighten the enjoyment of those that entertain a penchant there-for; and judging from the hundreds of bright faces both in the participants and proprietors last evening the same happiness and brilliancy will continue as long as the chilling breath of the ice king keeps the glassy surface of the respective ponds in our midst of the same excel-ient character.

ohiling breath of the ice king keeps the glassy surface of the respective ponds in our midst of the same excellent character.

During this season of joy the management of the many skating rescrite have, with a determination not to be excelled by one another, exhausted their inventive genius in the way of putting forward attractions to please the eye of the votaries of the art and make their bright orystal floors more attractive for the detectation of the exponents of the crisp-rapping, gliding runners. Some have had inaugural receptions, where, with brilliant lights and sweet music, the hours sped merrily away. Others conceived that carnivals with masks and fancy dresses, the same inspiriting music and pyroteohnies of varied character, with the unalloyed enjoyment that made a brilliant framework to the charming picture of rosy cheeks and rosier tinted lips, more appropriate. Others had tourneys between ladies, where the mysteries of "rolls" forward and backward, the "implement of rosy cheeks and rosier tinted lips, more appropriate. Others had tourneys between ladies, where the mysteries of "rolls" forward and backward, the "implement of the state," in these matches, where tees of the delty Uiler, renowned for "his beauty, his arrows and his skates." In these matches, where grace was combined with labor, there were particularly perceptible the charm of beauty and the blessings of health that follow this exercise. The performance of this science condensed in an hour more grace and potry than can be seen in a day's dancing, the usually accepted idea of the "poetry of motion." But the pleasures that attach to the clinking steel and those open air carnivals will not cease here, as manifold attractions are announced for the present week at the respective them tree or skating passimes.

Yesterday the ponds were filled, and last evening seemed to increase the gusto of the thousands that, frequented them.

THE PARK LAKES.

THE PARK LAKES.

Fully twenty thousand of all classes visited the pleasant pends, many of the number being school boys and girls. Saturday being to them the only favorable opportunity to disport themselves upon the frozen attrace. At night the scene with the thousand flitting figures, the bright lights and the ermine covered shrubery made it wonderfully beautiful and welrd-like. Many unique performers were there, among them the one-legged skater, whose evolutions excited much interest and admiration. These public lakes are the places of infinite grace in the development of the art of skating.

MITCHELL'S PARE FORD,

places of infinite grace in the development of the art of skating.

MITORREL'S PARE PORD,

The situation of this pond made it yesterday poeuliarly stractive. From Sair's morp until midnight, a constant stream of fair maidens, adopts in the more music of the steel, througed it, and with the pleasant music discoursed by the band added attractiveness to this retreat. To morrow the gold medal, so unique and artistic in design that it has recited much admiration, offered by the proprietor to the best male skater, will be contested for. All the figures prescribed by the New York Skating Club will be executed. "Spread engies" and "toe and heel" movements, with pirouettes will then be the pleasant themes of conversation.

OATHAM'S FIFTH AYBNUT PORD.

There are one or two carnivals to take place here, and Mr. Oatman has been tendered by the professional skating artists hereabouts a grand isetimonial, to take place on Thursday next.

MACHILLAN'S FIFTH AYBNUT FOND.

Thursday next.

The carnival of the past week at this place has added considerably to the reputation of its preprietor as a successful cateror. The pond is brilliantly lighted at night, and there is but little left undone to make it a place where excellence in all that makes skating attractive is

The arrangements to convey the members, of the Jerome Skating Association to the convey at Fordham were restarday carried out in full. The specultrain from the Hartem depot was filled with elegantly dressed tadies and their companions, who passed the day in another pleasant reunion on the gib surface. It was a brilliant display, worthy of the place, the season and the attendants.

The picturesque imagery developed by skating has here assumed its most attractive phase. The City of Churches beats of many, besides being fully equal in grace to the professionals of her larger sister, are enchanting in appearance. The spectacle recent the Union, before situded to in the Hanald was nificent, as moving plushes combined with fluribbons and the glitter of jowery to attract tholder, while many of the wearers seemed mor fairles than beings of this sphere. The ice is exhere, and so it is at all the other ponds, the Capi Satellite and Contral. Accommodations are not the Union that are in every respect suited to the ties of this brilliant tournament of the skate.

## SHOCKING ACCIDENT AT VOYERS.

An Extensive Storehouse Tumbles Howa-Two Men Killed and Five Othors Seriously Injured.

A few minutes before five o'clock yesterday after village of Yonkers, on a water-bound patch of land known as "Chicken Island" and owned by a brewer samed Edward Underhill, tumbied down with terrific crash, instantly killing two men named Patrick five others, on follows:—Dargan Slattery, badly hur about the head and body; Martin Meagher, a brother of the other two Meaghers; Martin Leaby Edwin Boyles and Jerry Lally. The last named three are not so seriously hurt as the others. The unfortunate

The building was considered one of the most substantial in the neighborhood and had only been finished about four weeks. The upper floor, on which was stored the to, to the number of about one hundred and fifty tons, was supported by eighteen solid build brick plars, set firmly in masonry. No feasible reason sould be usigned as a cause for the catestroppe, the noise of which was neard through the village, and soon an immense crowd surnounded the scone of the and accident. A force of the Yonkers potice, in charge of Sergeant Flandren, were quickly on the spot, and readered valuable and in attending to and removing the injured men. As a matter of course the village has been thrown into a state of intense sectlement through the adair. Coroner Smith, of Hastings, was at once notified, and shortly elements arrived in the village and held a rather hurried inquest. The verdict will be randered this morning. The hodies of the deceased were given in charge of their friends and removed to their former residence, previous to laterment. The remains presented a sight of the most sinkening character, the heads of both men being drushed simest beyond recognition.

## THE STATE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

The Convention met at ten o'clock.

Mr. Manurer moved that a committee of seven be appointed to examine into and report upon the follow ing: -First, the manner and form to which the constitu on as amended shall be submitted to the people fo tion as amonded shall be aubinized to the people for their adoption; second, the publication of the constitu-tion as amonded; third, the form of notice of the elec-tion; fourth, the form of the ballet or ballots; fifth, the time at which the constitution or amondments shalls be submitted to the people. Adopted.

The Convention them went into Committee of the Whole on the regard of the Committee on Education and funds pertaining thereto. Without coming to a rote on any propulation of importance the Constitute adjourned to tax e'alock on Mentar massius.